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URBAN DISTRICT OF  
**PAIGNTON**



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ANNUAL REPORT

*on the*

HEALTH

OF THE AREA

. . . 1962







*Photograph by J. Wildman*

Municipal Offices, Oldway, Paignton

URBAN DISTRICT OF PAIGNTON

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE HEALTH OF THE AREA

FOR THE YEAR 1962

Urban District of Paignton

Annual Report on the Health of the Area for the year 1962

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PAIGNTON URBAN DISTRICT  
REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR 1962

p r e f a c e

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I present herewith my Annual Report on Health in Paignton for the year 1962. The Report is based upon material supplied by the Public Health Inspectors, the Engineer and Surveyor, the Water Engineer and the Housing Officer.

STATISTICS

Population

Although the final census figures in 1961 indicated a population of 30,292, the Registrar General's estimate of the mid-year population for 1962 was only 29,810 persons. This estimate is the 'official figure' upon which the vital statistics in this Report are based, for comparison with other years. The estimated population increased by 840 persons. There were 151 more deaths than births, possibly due to a large aged population, so that the estimated population increase may be attributed to a total of 991 persons having moved into the District.

According to the census figures there were 25,553 persons resident in 1951, rising by 4,739 over the years to 30,292 in 1961. This averages nearly 474 persons per year, about half the present estimated increase for 1962. I would hazard a guess that the actual increase of population has not been evenly spread out over the past ten years, but has taken place mostly during the latter half of that period, in step with the increase in housing.

Births and Deaths

The Standardised Birth Rate at 13.46 per 1,000 population is higher than in 1961, but well below the National Average of 18.0. This is possibly a reflection of the proportion of young married couples to elderly persons. Unfortunately details of the age groups of the population at the 1961 census have not yet been received so an accurate assessment cannot be made.

The Standardised Death Rate in 1962 was 12.72 per 1,000 population. This is lower than in 1961, but still slightly above the National Average of 11.9 per 1,000 population.

## CONTROL OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

### Extent of Illness

A total of 163 cases of Communicable Disease was notified to the Council by Medical Practitioners in accordance with Section 144 of the Public Health Act, 1936. Measles accounted for 134 of the notifications. 14 cases of Tuberculosis occurred, all in adults, some over the age of 65 years.

### Illness amongst visitors to Holiday Camps

Every opportunity is taken to remind camp managements of the importance of encouraging holidaymakers who are taken ill to inform the camp site manager. This enables the management in the case of infectious illness to inform the Public Health Department so that suitable precautions can be taken at the caravan or chalet before the arrival of a new batch of visitors. In cases where a general medical practitioner has been consulted, notification of any infectious illness usually follows very quickly from the doctor.

### Anthrax

Anthrax is an acute, and generally fatal, disease caused by a germ known as the Bacillus Anthracis. Human beings and all animals are liable to contract it. On January 2nd, the Police in exercise of their powers under the Diseases of Animals Acts informed me that three Racoons at Paignton Zoological Gardens had died from Anthrax, that they had taken all necessary precautions, and veterinary officers from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, were in attendance. On inquiry it was ascertained that about 28 persons had been in contact with these animals, during the illness and after death. Appropriate action was immediately taken to advise the contacts, and their family doctors, about prophylaxis and treatment of anthrax. I am pleased to state that no human cases of anthrax occurred as a result of this incident. I understand that some food given to the animals came under suspicion as a possible source of the anthrax germs, and that the matter was dealt with by the Ministry Officials.

### Smallpox

During the time of the outbreak of Smallpox in the Midlands and in Wales early in the year, many inquiries were received locally from hoteliers and caterers regarding protection of their staffs by smallpox vaccination particularly as it was impracticable to prohibit people travelling to and from the 'infected areas'. Generally speaking vaccination was limited to persons exposed to special risk and who had never in their lives been previously vaccinated. All vaccinations were done by general medical practitioners.

To meet any possible local demand extra supplies of smallpox vaccine were obtained and stored at the Devon County Council Clinic in Midvale Road, Paignton.



In August a member of the crew of the liner "Oronsay" who was a possible contact of a case of smallpox aboard ship was kept under surveillance during his stay in Paignton.

During the smallpox outbreak in this Country persons travelling abroad were required to have an International Vaccination Certificate. In Paignton alone 1,003 such Certificates were presented at the Public Health Department for authentication in accordance with the International Sanitary Regulations. This was approximately three times the normal number usually received.

#### Typhoid Fever - Imported Case

In August a party of students from England visited Spain and some of them contracted Typhoid Fever. In the middle of September one of these students returned to his home in Paignton, and was placed under surveillance until laboratory tests showed him to be clear of infection. Family contacts were also placed under surveillance, and purely as a precaution, three school children in the family were excluded from school until laboratory tests showed them to be clear of infection.

One other family also returned from Spain with an enteritis. This cleared up and tests for typhoid and other illnesses all proved negative.

#### Bacillary Dysentery

Three separate cases of enteritis due to *Shigella sonnei* were admitted to hospital. Family contacts were followed up and tested bacteriologically, with negative results.

### GENERAL HEALTH

#### Health Education

Arising from National and Local publicity about prevention of drowning accidents, the Council, in co-operation with the St. John Ambulance Brigade arranged for members of its staff, especially those employed on the beaches, to receive instruction in the mouth-to-mouth method of resuscitation in cases of drowning. The instruction was given with the aid of a model called "Resuscianne".

The Council also received information about the relationship of cigarette smoking and lung cancer. In this connection it was reported that the Devon County Council would be carrying out an anti-smoking campaign in its schools.

Council members felt that this was the proper place for such propaganda, and some members expressed the viewpoint that since the main industry of the area was the holiday trade, holidaymakers should not be badgered to give up smoking when they had come down here to relax and escape from such propaganda in their home towns! Accordingly the Paignton Urban District Council decided to not run an anti-smoking campaign.

In November, the Council also received a preliminary report concerning the incidence of dental caries and the effect of adding small amounts of fluoride to the water supplies. Action in the matter was postponed until 1963.

In addition to all this the staff of the Public Health Department are continuously, during the normal course of duties, offering advice on all manner of things connected with health. This is particularly so in the field of Food Hygiene at food shops, cafes and in hotel kitchens.

### Drainage and Health

A seldom publicised but essential Health Service provided by local councils is the routine testing of drainage, particularly in connection with new development. Defective drainage can still be a danger to health and create a sanitary nuisance. The work of drain testing is carried out by the Health Department. A first and final test are done on each set of drains and if a test fails further inspections and tests become necessary. A total of 749 drain tests and 168 inspections of sewer connections was carried out on 324 newly constructed houses during the year, in addition to 109 drain tests on existing properties. As well as the conventional type of fittings builders are now using pitch-fibre drain pipes and plastic (P.V.C.) soil pipes.

### Purification of Sewage

In June the Council gave permission for research work into the purification of sewage to be carried out experimentally at the Clennon Valley sewage pumping station. The experiments were carried out by staff of the Imperial Chemical Industries Laboratories at Brixham. Work had been proceeding for some time on the purification of industrial sewage effluents to render them suitable for discharge into an ordinary sewage disposal system and also for the purpose of salvaging washing water from certain processes to enable it to be re-used thus saving water, and reducing the need to purchase more water.

The work in this field was so advanced that attention was being given to the purification of ordinary domestic sewage effluents. Such a scheme could have far reaching beneficial effects to local authorities whose sewage disposal works are already overloaded or because of unforeseen urban growth are in danger of becoming overloaded.



The principle, if successfully applied to domestic sewage, could also be utilised to partially purify sewage effluent before it is disposed of into the sea.

Paignton can justly feel proud to be assisting with this pioneer research.

### Sewerage System

Notes about the storm water drainage scheme at Paignton and repairs to the Sharkham Point Sewer Outfall which was damaged following severe gales, appear later in this report.

## SOCIAL SERVICES

### National Assistance Acts, 1948 and 1951 Welfare of Old People

On January 1st 1962, it was necessary to obtain a Justice's Order for the compulsory removal to hospital of an elderly man who was suffering from pneumonia and was in need of care and attention. The patient lived alone and refused to accept his doctor's advice. There had been a heavy snowstorm the previous night and the house he lived in was very cold. When I saw his condition I realised he would probably die if left alone for another night. The man refused to go away voluntarily so a Justice of the Peace was called in. The man still refused to go to hospital and the Justice of the Peace thereupon signed an Order for his removal in accordance with Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, as amended by the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951. He spent several months in various hospitals and died in April at the age of 82 years.

There was one burial under Section 50 of the above Act, during 1962.

### National Assistance Act, 1948 (Amendment) Act, 1962 Meals for Old People

The Women's Voluntary Services and Townwomen's Guild served approximately 3,700 meals during 1962. The meals were cooked, served and delivered on Tuesdays and Fridays each week and the cost was one and sixpence per meal. This covered the cost of all the commodities used. The Council and the County Council met the cost of a Hot-Lock food container.

In accordance with the Act the County Welfare Committee had agreed to share on an equal basis with the District Councils the cost of (i) the difference between the selling price and the actual cost of the meals and (ii) any equipment necessary. The Paignton Urban District Council agreed to adopt this policy, but so far has not been asked for a contribution to the meals.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Once again I would like to record my appreciation of the continued support received from Councillors and Staff during the year.

JOHN WILDMAN

Medical Officer of Health

November, 1963.



PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT - 1962

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

JOHN H. WILDMAN, M.R.C.S.(Eng)., L.R.C.P.(Lond)., D.P.H.(Lond).

(Also Medical Officer of Health, Brixham U.D.C. and Borough of Dartmouth, and Assistant County Medical Officer, Devon County Council).

Public Health Department, Municipal Offices, Oldway, Paignton.

Telephone: Paignton 82214 Extn. 59

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

Chief Public Health Inspector

S. H. BONE, Cert. S.I.E.J.B., Meat Cert., M.A.P.H.I.  
(Also Housing Officer, Explosives and Petroleum Officer).

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector

W. D. MUGFORD, Cert. S.I.E.J.B., Meat Cert., M.A.P.H.I.  
(Resigned 11.6.62.)

Senior Additional Public Health Inspector

F. C. BIDGOOD, Cert. S.I.E.J.B., Meat Cert., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors

R. SMITH, Cert S.I.E.J.B., Meat Cert., M.A.P.H.I.

L. LANCASTER, Cert, S.I.E.J.B., Meat Cert., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.  
(Appointed 1.11.62.)

CLERICAL

Mrs. S. BEAUMONT (M.O.H. Clerk)

Miss N. HART

Mrs. G. COLLINGS

OTHER

C.J. TURPIN Disinfector, A.L. DOHERTY Rodent Operator

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

The Chairman of the Public Health Committee for the Session 1962/63 was Councillor G.W. CORNELIUS, J.P., and the Vice-Chairman was Councillor Mrs. M.B. Bolton. Also on the Committee were Councillors E.M. Bishop, J. Coles, Mrs. M.I. Dixon, J.C.P. Kingsland, Mrs. E.C. Mumford, J.H. Mumford, C.C., J.S. Rundle and K.G.M. Walke.

S E C T I O N   A

VITAL   STATISTICS   AND   GENERAL   STATISTICS   1962

TABLE 1

( Figures for 1961 are shown in brackets )

POPULATION:

Estimated Mid-Year Population of Paignton Urban District

29,810   (28,970)

Natural increase or decrease	...	...	- 151	(- 213)
Migration in or out	...	...	+ 991	(+1,693)
Total increase or decrease	...	...	+ 840	(+1,480)

GENERAL STATISTICS:

Area of Paignton Urban District in Acres      5,188

Area of pleasure grounds (acres)	...	349.024
Area of foreshore (acres)	...	151.300
Length of coastline (miles)	...	4.58
Coastline owned by Council (miles)	...	3.66

Number of Inhabited Houses according to Rate Books

11,135   (10,844)

Number of Houses per acre	...	2.12
Number of Persons per acre	...	5.7
Number of Persons per house	...	2.7

Rateable Value of District      £589,591      (£567,496)

Sum Represented by a Penny Rate      £2,405      (£2,329)

# VITAL STATISTICS AND GENERAL STATISTICS 1962

TABLE 2

( Figures for 1961 are shown in brackets )

## BIRTHS

Standardised Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population 13.46 (11.66)

Area Comparability Factor for Births ... 1.09 ( 1.09)

### Number of Live Births

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Total</u>	177	191	368
Legitimate	164	178	342
Illegitimate	13	13	26
<u>Number of Still Births</u>	1	0	1

## DEATHS

Standardised Death Rate per 1,000 population 12.72 (13.17)

Area Comparability Factor for Deaths ... 0.73 ( 0.73)

### Number of Deaths

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>All Ages - Total</u>	246	273	519
<u>Deaths of Infants under 1 yr.</u>	2	4	6
Number under 4 weeks of age	1	4	5
Number under 1 week of age	1	2	3

Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births 20.7 (19.3)

## COMPARISON WITH RATES FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

BIRTH RATE: 18.0 (17.4) DEATH RATE: 11.9 (12.0)

Infantile Mortality Rate 20.7 (21.4)  
(Infants under 1 year of age)

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: Cases Notified During 1962

TABLE 1

<u>DISEASE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Age Group in Years</u>					
		<u>Under</u> 1	1-	5-	15-	25-	<u>Over</u> 65
Scarlet Fever	5	0	2	3	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	6	0	3	3	0	0	0
Measles	134	2	55	76	1	0	0
Dysentery	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
Tuberculosis (Lungs)	11	0	0	0	0	9	2
Tuberculosis (Other)	3	0	0	0	0	3	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	0	0	0	2	0	0
Erysipelas	3	0	0	0	0	1	2

TABLE 2

<u>DISEASE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Incidence by Quarters</u>			
		<u>1st</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>3rd</u>	<u>4th</u>
Scarlet Fever	5	2	0	0	3
Whooping Cough	6	1	2	1	2
Measles	134	4	47	78	5
Dysentery	1	0	0	0	1
Tuberculosis (Lungs)	11	1	3	3	4
Tuberculosis (Other)	3	0	1	0	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	1	0	1	0
Erysipelas	3	0	0	3	0

INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATES OF VACCINATION

During the year 1,003 certificates of Smallpox and Cholera vaccination in respect of persons travelling abroad were authenticated by the Public Health Department.



# CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1962

<u>Line No.</u>		<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>
	ALL CAUSES ... ..	246	273	519
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory ... ..	0	1	1
2	Tuberculosis, other ... ..	0	0	0
3	Syphilitic disease ... ..	0	0	0
4	Diphtheria ... ..	0	0	0
5	Whooping Cough ... ..	0	0	0
6	Meningococcal infections ... ..	0	0	0
7	Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	0	0	0
8	Measles ... ..	0	0	0
9	Other infective and parasitic disease ...	1	0	1
10	Malignant neoplasms, stomach... ..	6	3	9
11	" " lungs, bronchus ... ..	14	1	15
12	" " breast ... ..	0	8	8
13	" " uterus ... ..	0	6	6
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms...	29	27	56
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia ... ..	0	1	1
16	Diabetes ... ..	1	1	2
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	33	56	89
18	Coronary disease, angina ... ..	53	44	97
19	Hypertension with heart disease ... ..	2	8	10
20	Other heart disease ... ..	43	52	95
21	Other circulatory disease ... ..	10	12	22
22	Influenza ... ..	1	0	1
23	Pneumonia ... ..	7	9	16
24	Bronchitis ... ..	12	3	15
25	Other diseases of respiratory system ...	2	1	3
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... ..	3	1	4
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	0	1	1
28	Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	3	2	5
29	Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	3	0	5
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ... ..	0	0	0
31	Congenital malformations ... ..	0	2	2
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	16	19	35
33	Motor vehicle accidents ... ..	0	1	1
34	All other accidents ... ..	3	9	12
35	Suicide ... ..	4	4	8
36	Homicide and operations of war ... ..	0	1	1
(a)	Still Births ... ..	1	0	1
(b)	Deaths of infants under one week of age	1	2	3
(c)	" " " one week to four weeks of age	1	4	5
(d)	" " " four weeks to one year of age	2	4	6

## S E C T I O N   B

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR PAIGNTON - 1962

#### LABORATORY SERVICE

Laboratory facilities for the bacteriological examination of pathological specimens, samples of milk, water, ice cream and shell fish, are provided by the Public Health Laboratory Service at Bradninch Place, Gandy Street, Exeter. (Telephone: Exeter 54959).

In emergency, certain (medical) specimens can be examined at the Laboratory of the Torbay Hospital, Torquay.

The chemical analysis of water and other samples is undertaken by Dr. Cedric V. Reynolds, Public Analyst, 1 Barnfield Crescent, Exeter. (Telephone: Exeter 72836).

#### COUNTY COUNCIL HEALTH SERVICES

The following are some of the County Council Services available under the National Health Service Act, 1946. Full details can be obtained from the County Medical Officer, Health Department, County Hall, Topsham Road, Exeter.

#### Home Nursing, Midwifery, Health Visiting and Welfare Centres

There are six District Nurse/Midwives, three Health Visitors and a Nursing Assistant. Child Welfare Sessions are held at 14 Midvale Road, Paignton (Tele: Paignton 59131) on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons; at the Baptist Church Hall, Preston, Paignton, on Wednesday afternoons and on the first and third Tuesday afternoons at the Baptist Church Hall, Smallcombe Road, Foxhole, Paignton.

#### Vaccinations, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus and Poliomyelitis Immunisations

A Medical Officer at the Welfare Centres, will vaccinate or immunise babies at the request of parents. Family Doctors will also provide this prophylaxis free of charge.

#### Home and Domestic Help Service

The Devon County Council have appointed a full-time Home Help Organiser with an office at the Central Clinic, 14 Midvale Road, Paignton (Telephone: Paignton 59131).

This service aims to provide essential domestic help in cases of maternity, sickness, convalescence, old age and infirmity. The service is not free, but persons if unable to pay the full charges, are assessed according to their means.



### Ambulance Service

The Service is under the general direction of the County Medical Officer, but the local administration is carried out by the Paignton St. John Ambulance and Nursing Brigade, under an agency agreement with the Devon County Council.

Doctors requiring an ambulance are advised to telephone the Ambulance Radio Control Centre at Torquay, Telephone: 89345. However it is still permissible to telephone the local Ambulance Station at Littlegate Road, Paignton. Telephone: 57602.

For infectious disease other than smallpox, ambulance arrangements are still made by the Torbay Hospital Annexe (Telephone: Torquay 63276), for cases entering the Hospital from the Paignton area.

Special arrangements exist for the treatment of smallpox at Upton Pyne Smallpox Hospital, Exeter. Arrangements for transport of such cases are made through Whipton Isolation Hospital, Exeter (Telephone: Exeter 67158).

### Hospital Car Service

The Hospital Car Service (organised by the S.J.A.B., B.R.C.S., and W.V.S.) operates under an agency agreement with the Devon County Council. It transports sitting cases who can enter or leave a vehicle unaided. Arrangements for a hospital car will be made by the hospital, upon application by a Medical practitioner.

### Mental Health

Arrangements for mental treatment on the recommendation of a Medical Practitioner are made by the Duly Authorised Officers, Miss O.F. Evans and Mr. W.J. Gliddon, Central Clinic, 14 Midvale Road, Paignton. (Telephone: 59131).

### HOSPITAL SERVICES

These are provided by the Torquay and District Hospital Management Committee on behalf of the South-Western Regional Hospital Board.

The Paignton and District Hospital, situated at Church Street, Paignton is a General Hospital with an establishment of 50 beds.

There is a Recovery Hospital with 24 beds at Kings Ash, Paignton, with a General Practitioner Staff (as for Paignton Hospital).

The District is also served for general cases by the Torbay Hospital, Torquay, whilst cases of infectious disease (except smallpox) are received at the Torbay Hospital Annexe, Torquay.

Emergency treatment in Hospital of cases of Acute Poisoning may be obtained at the Torbay Hospital, Torquay (commenced Autumn 1963).

#### MEDICAL AND DENTAL SERVICES

There are 21 General Medical Practitioners together with 12 Dentists and a School Dental Clinic in Paignton.

#### OTHER SERVICES

##### Nurseries

There are three Nurseries in the District. One is a Resident Nursery, and the other two are Day Nurseries.

##### Old People's Welfare

A number of voluntary agencies including the Guild of Social Service (tel.: Paignton 57604) cater for the needs of old people.

##### Chiropody Service

A County Council Chiropodist operates a foot clinic at the Central Clinic, 14 Midvale Road, Paignton (telephone: 59131). Treatment is available for handicapped persons, the elderly and any expectant mothers who might be in need of chiropody. Most cases are referred to the clinic by the family doctor, but there is provision for health visitors, district nurses and voluntary agencies to refer cases to the County Medical Officer.

Sessions are held every Tuesday and Friday morning from 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m., but on the first and third Tuesday afternoons each month there is also a session from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

##### Citizens' Advice Bureau

Sessions are held at the Rest Centre, Bishop's Place, Paignton, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon and 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. daily, except at week-ends. Facilities for Marriage Guidance can be arranged.

##### Infertility and Family Planning Clinics

Clinic sessions at the Central Clinic, 14 Midvale Road, Paignton are held regularly by the Torbay Branch of the Family Planning Association. Interviews are arranged by appointment. (Telephone Paignton 83343 between 9 and 10 a.m.)



## SECTION C

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

#### WATER SUPPLY

##### Source of Supply

The water supply to the Paignton Statutory Area is obtained from the two moorland catchment areas, known as Holne and Swincombe. Holne is an impounding reservoir of a capacity of 190,000,000 gallons and Swincombe is a river intake which is piped to Holne via a 24" diameter bitumen lined steel main.

Owing to the steady expansion of Paignton the above supplies are found to be inadequate to meet the summer demands and water was purchased from the South Devon Water Board during these months. This water was obtained from the River Dart via a Ranney system caisson and pumped to Paignton through a 15" diameter main. The Scheme, a triumph of engineering ingenuity, and I believe, the first of its kind in England, takes water from the gravels beneath the River Dart, a few hundred yards above Totnes Weir, before the fresh water cascades into the salt tidal waters of the river. The site was chosen after the Medical Officer to the Board had carried out exhaustive chemical and bacteriological tests upon the water obtained from a series of trial borings. The tests revealed that the river water filtered naturally through the gravels beneath the river was of high quality and bacteriological purity, and after suitable pH correction and chlorination would be suitable for human consumption. Pumping tests revealed that the site would yield at least three million gallons of water in 24 hours, but the Ministry at first restricted pumping to approximately one million gallons. The first water from this source was pumped direct into the Paignton supply at Claylands Cross, Paignton, on July 6th 1962. A truly historic date to remember.

##### Treatment

The Swincombe and Holne water is filtered at Holne Treatment Works through 24 vertical Candy pressure filters and is then treated by chlorine and pH correction before being piped by two trunk mains to the Paignton service reservoirs. The South Devon Water Board water obtained from the River Dart is likewise treated with chlorine, and for pH correction.

The service reservoirs are as follows:-

<u>Site</u>	<u>Height above Sea Level</u>	<u>Capacity Gallons</u>
St. Mary's	345 ft.	300,000
Beacon Hill	612 ft.	600,000
Windmill	510 ft.	1,000,000
Fernicombe	325 ft.	1,000,000
Alston	345 ft.	1,500,000

The trunk mains also distribute water in bulk to the South Devon Water Board, the Urban Districts of Brixham, Teignmouth and the Rural District of Newton Abbot.

Approximately 99.7 per cent of the population are supplied with water direct to the houses, and there are no standpipes. A total of 365 new houses was connected to the mains and there are now 143 miles 456 yards of water mains, an increase of 2 miles 260 yards since the previous year.

#### Quantity

The supply of water to the Paignton statutory area was augmented by the bulk purchase of 162,000,000 gallons from the South Devon Water Board, delivered at a rate of up to 1,500,000 gallons per day during the summer months. As a consequence no restrictions on the use of water were imposed and the Great Parks Spring supply was no longer required.

#### Quality

##### Bacteriological

No samples of raw water were collected during 1962, but 27 samples of treated water were examined bacteriologically and were all found to be excellent (Class I).

According to the Ministry of Health's publication on "Public Health and Medical Subjects", it is stated that throughout the year 50 per cent of samples should fall into Class I, 80 per cent should not fall below Class II and the remainder should not fall below Class III.

##### Chemical

No raw water samples of the Paignton water supplies from Holne were taken in 1962, but the chemical analysis of the South Devon Water Board "Ranney" water on 13th August, 1963, was as follows:-

Chemical Results in Parts per Million

Appearance	Faint opalescence with very few particles
Colour (Hazen Scale)	15
Turbidity (units)	Less than 3
Odour	Nil
pH	7.3
Free Carbon Dioxide	4
Electric Conductivity at 20°C	140
Dissolved Solids dried at 180°C	95
Chlorine present as Chloride	11
Nitrate Nitrogen	0.3
Nitrite Nitrogen	Absent
*Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.030
*Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.080
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	40
Hardness:	
Total	50
Carbonate       (Temporary)	40
Non-Carbonate   (Permanent)	10
Oxygen Absorbed in 4 hrs. at 27°C	2.3
Residual Chlorine	0.03
Metals:	
Iron            )	
Zinc            )	
Copper          )	Absent
Lead            )	
Manganese       )	

\*To convert to Ammonia multiply by 1.21



## Maintenance of Plant

During the year, the remaining unserviced filters were overhauled thus completing the renewal and cleansing of the twentyfour filters at Holne.

Where leaks occurred on service pipes, the pipes were renewed, and through this action the older installations are gradually being replaced.

## DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

### Refuse Collection and Disposal

Household refuse is collected weekly, free of charge.

A charge is made for the collection of trade refuse and any additional collection from private households.

During the year 14,062 tons of refuse were collected and disposed of by controlled tipping. This is 594 tons more than in 1961. The use of part of the Clennon Valley for Controlled Tipping of refuse is part of a long term scheme to reclaim land which will ultimately be utilised for sporting facilities.

### Sewage Disposal

Sewage flows to the sewage pumping station in the Clennon Valley, whence it is pumped into a trunk sewer which discharges into the English Channel off Sharkham Point, Brixham (outside Torbay).

### Sharkham Point Sewer Outfall

Shortly after severe gales in February and March, 1962 a report was received that there was a fracture in the main sewer outfall for foul sewage off Sharkham Point, in the English Channel, outside Torbay, and that there was a considerable amount of foul sewage close up beneath the cliffs. Examination by divers revealed a large hole in the top of one section of the cast iron outfall pipe. Two large boulders, estimated to weigh about ten tons each, were lying across the pipe. With the sanction of the Ministry repair work was put in hand as soon as weather conditions permitted and the damaged section of pipe was repaired by July the same year.

Examination by divers of the remainder of the outfall pipe which was laid in 1933, revealed that tidal erosion had washed away some of the material which had been supporting the pipe, and that several long sections of the cast iron pipe were unsupported. A further report was submitted to the Ministry, and sanction was obtained to proceed with the necessary works of repair. It was hoped that this part of the work could be commenced in 1963, but it was realised







*Photograph by S. H. Bone*

Stormwater Drainage Scheme—  
Laying Pipes across the Bed of Paignton Harbour

by the Council that the task would be difficult owing to very strong under-sea currents.

The total estimated cost of these two repair contracts approached £15,000.

### The Tunnel Sewer

An application by Totnes Rural District Council for permission to discharge effluent from a piggeries direct into the Tunnel Sewer was refused by Paignton Urban District Council.

The Surveyor reported that as a result of the rapid growth of Paignton the time was approaching when the sewer might become surcharged and consideration would have to be given to the construction of storm-water overflows along the tunnel sewer to prevent this happening.

### Storm Water and New Main Drainage Contract

Work proceeded apace with the first stage of the main storm water sewerage system which is being enlarged and augmented. It is just over thirty years since major works of this type have been undertaken and the growth of the town, especially since the last war has made enlargement of the system necessary. In recent years following torrential rain storms some twenty parts of Paignton have become temporarily flooded owing to surcharging of the sewers. This new scheme should overcome the trouble. The first section to be completed was the main storm water outfall - a 66" diameter pipe - passing under the bed of the harbour. The photograph shows work proceeding in the harbour. The harbour entrance was blocked by a dam, the water was pumped out and excavators proceeded to cut a deep trench across the harbour bed in which the pipe was laid and bedded in concrete. On the seaward side of the harbour wall divers continued the outfall well out into the bay, using iron pipe lowered into a trench cut in the rock.

### Septic Tank Nuisance at Goodrington

It is still planned to abate a nuisance from an overloaded septic tank draining a group of properties at Goodrington, by pumping the sewage into the Council's main sewer. The work will be carried out as part of the main drainage contract.

### Public Conveniences and Turnstiles

The Council agreed to proceed with plans for the removal of turnstiles at the Main Shelter convenience on the sea front.



## PUBLIC HEALTH

### Infectious Disease

The following cases of infectious disease have been investigated:-

Typhoid Fever	1	Scarlet Fever	3
Para Typhoid Fever	3	Sonne Dysentery	1

### Drainage and Sewerage Inspections

324 houses and flats (including Council premises) were completed during the year and considerable time was given to the supervision of the design and construction of drainage systems. The tests and inspections carried out are classified as follows:-

#### New Buildings

Sewer connections inspected	..	168
Tests of drainage	..	749

#### Existing Buildings

Sewer connections inspected	..	5
Tests of drainage	..	109

### Choked Drains and Sewers

Informal action was taken in 137 instances to secure clearance of obstructions.

### Disinfection and Disinfestation

Treatment was carried out for the following reasons:-

New Tenancies	14	Deaths	5
Infectious Disease	1	Other reasons	12

271 articles were treated as follows:-

Bedding	11	Books	248
Clothing	12		

Most of the books were in a consignment to a school library, and were fumigated because of an outbreak of Chicken pox and German Measles at the School.

### Camping Sites

There were 57 sites occupied during the year by tents, caravans, chalets and other buildings of short lived materials, this being an increase of three

sites since the previous year. Two sites, Waterside and Grange Court are owned by Paignton Council.

582 visits were made to the camping sites during the year.

A reduction in the number of caravans on some of the sites is still in progress. As in previous years a record was made of any extensions of existing camps, especially the opening of new fields for camping purposes.

On three occasions in 1962 a Public Inquiry was held at Oldway to determine planning applications. The results of two of these Inquiries were received before the end of the year, one application being granted. Notification was also received that an application was granted as a result of an Inquiry held in 1961.

With generally good co-operation from those concerned, improvements in the sanitary accommodation and general facilities were carried out on a number of the camps, including Grange Court and Waterside Camp. There is main drainage at 25 camps, and many camps have installed water storage tanks, which eases the load on the Council's water mains at peak draw off periods.

A survey was made during the first two weeks in August and gave the following figures:-

	<u>1961</u>	<u>1962</u>
Number of Campers	17,350	17,883
Number of Caravans	2,468	2,664
Number of Huts and Chalets	767	837
Number of Tents	1,819	1,911

Some road-side and car-park camping was reported, but no survey was carried out.

#### Swimming Pools

There are three swimming pools at holiday camps and two at schools in the Urban Area. All are equipped with filtration and chlorination apparatus.

Five samples were taken during the year, all of which proved satisfactory.

#### Old Metal or Marine Store Dealers

3 persons are registered as Dealers in Old Metal under Section 86 of The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Rodent Control

In accordance with the instructions issued by the Infestation Control Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, ten per cent of the sewers in the District are test-baited annually. From evidence based on the results of this test two maintenance tests were carried out in the early spring and autumn.

The tests emphasise that very few rats are to be found in the sewers in the elevated parts of the town. Takes were recorded in the sewers in the low-lying parts and although it does not seem possible to eradicate the rats completely from this area, there is no evidence to show that their numbers are increasing.

Treatments to private houses were free of charge, but a charge is made for treating business premises.

The following Table summarises the incidence of infestation and action taken and is based on returns submitted to the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

	<u>Council Premises</u>	<u>Dwelling Houses</u>	<u>Business Premises</u>	<u>Agricul- tural</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
No. Properties Inspected	54	655	209	15	933
No. infested with Rats	17	262	40	8	327
No. infested with Mice	1	12	13	0	26
No. Properties treated	18	274	53	8	353

Wasp Nests

25 wasp nests were destroyed.



## HOUSING ACTS

### HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENTS ACT

#### Inspections

A total of 103 premises was inspected for housing defects or statutory nuisances under the Housing Acts or Public Health Acts, and 57 notices were served. The number of inspections made for this purpose was 152. The work was carried out following the service of Informal Notices with one exception necessitating statutory action.

Eleven unfit houses were demolished during the year, the Council accommodating all displaced persons. Some of the properties were Council owned.

#### HOUSING PROGRESS DURING 1962

The Housing Officer has supplied information on which the following report on Council Houses is based:-

#### Council Houses

No new premises were completed during 1962, but work was commenced on a block of flats at Tweenaway and bungalows and houses at the rear of Barton Drive.

Five empty premises were brought forward from the previous year and twenty houses and ten flats (including three pensioners' flats) became vacant during the year. Twenty-eight families were rehoused from the Short List and also five key workers. Nineteen families were transferred to more suitable accommodation. Five local exchanges took place and three with other Local Authorities (Exeter, Newark and Plymouth). One house and one flat were empty on December 31st 1962.

Allocations were made for the following reasons:-

	<u>Families</u>
Overcrowded conditions	3
Unsuitable conditions	13
Health reasons	2
Court Orders	2
Key Workers	5
Miscellaneous reasons	8
Transfers	19

## Housing Estates

Number of pre-war Council houses	390
Number of houses on Foxhole Estate	337
Number of maisonettes on Foxhole Estate	13
Number of flats on Foxhole Estate	304
Number of houses on other Estates	198

The total number of garages on the Foxhole Estate is forty-five.

House rents are calculated on a fifty week year, rent holiday weeks being at August Bank Holiday and Christmas. Increases in rents were made in October, 1962. Average inclusive rents range from £1. 7s. Od., to £2. 9s. 8d., per week.

The Housing Officer held 431 interviews with housing applicants and made 408 visits to premises in connection with local applications for Council houses and transfers. Also four visits were made for other Local Authorities, namely Harlow, Stevenage, Swindon and Torquay.

## Housing Waiting List

At the 31st December, 1962, there were 340 applicants on the general list and 181 applicants on the pensioners' list, making a total of 521 applications..

## Private Enterprise Building

A total of 324 houses and flats was built by private enterprise during 1962.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

### Milk Supply

The Special Designated Milks on sale in the area are Tuberculin Tested and Pasteurised. Sterilised Milk is not retailed in Paignton.

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960, came into force on the 1st January, 1961, when the authority for granting dealers licences passed from the Council to the Devon County Council. This transfer marked the end of the Council's connection with the administration of the milk supply.

### Ice Cream

There are 126 vendors and 4 manufacturers registered for the sale or manufacture of ice cream. The types of premises retailing this commodity are as follows:-





*Photograph by S. H. Bone*

Foxhole Estate—Maisonettes





Grocers	29	Holiday Camp Shops	11
Greengrocers/Fruiterers	12	Garage Sales Shops	2
Confectioners	54	Restaurants	23
General Stores	4	Snack Bars	10
Kiosks	13	Cinemas	3
Multiple Store	1	Theatres	2
		Bingo Hall	1

Of the 4 ice cream manufacturers 2 manufacture by hot mix, and 2 by cold mix.

### Samples

37 samples of ice cream were bacteriologically tested.

The following table gives the results, and compares them with the results of samples taken during the previous year:-

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total number of Samples</u>	<u>Percentage of Samples in Provisional Grade</u>			
		<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>
1961	96	54.2	27.1	14.6	4.1
1962	37	67.6	18.9	5.4	8.1

### Note:

Owing to the numerous factors governing the hygienic quality of ice cream it is unwise to pay too much attention to the bacteriological results on any single sample. Judgement should be based rather on a series of samples. It is suggested that over a six-monthly period, 50 per cent of a vendor's samples should fall into Grade 1, 80 per cent into Grades 1 or 2, not more than 20 per cent into Grade 3, and none into Grade 4.

### Slaughtering and Meat Inspection

Following the acceptance of the slaughterhouse report by the Minister all slaughtering for the area was transferred on the 1st April, 1961, from the Council's slaughterhouse at Luscombe Road to the Torquay Borough Council Abattoir. The Public Health Inspectors carry out inspection duties twice weekly (Mondays and Thursdays) at the Abattoir and the system has worked very satisfactorily.

### Unsound Food

The total amount of food condemned was approximately one ton thirty cwt;

together with five gallons of tinned milk. The types of food are listed below:-

### Canned and Preserved Food

Meat	333	tins		
Fish	56	tins	Milk	49 tins
Fruit	759	tins	Soup	20 tins
Vegetables	261	tins	Preserves	73 tins

### Other Foods

Sweets	14	lb		
Cheese	2	lb	Fish	36¾ stone
Butter	28	lb	Cereal	2 packets
Turkeys (3)	50¾	lb	Beef Suet	5 packets
Smoked Bacon	21	lb	Frozen Food	83¼ packets

A refrigeration breakdown was the cause of the frozen food condemnation.

### Disposal of Condemned Food

Condemned foodstuffs are disposed of under supervision at the Council's refuse tip.

### Food Samples sent for Analysis

The Public Health Inspector of the Devon County Council in accordance with the authority given by the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, caused the following samples to be analysed during the year:-

White Wine	Strawberry Jam	Compound Cooking Fat
Haliborange Tablets	Black Pepper	Saccharin Tablets
Lemon Juice	French Mustard	Blackberry Juice
Liqueur Centre Sweets	Minced Meat Loaf	Ice Cream (2 samples)
Sparkling Wine	Continental Coffee	Milky Drink
Mixed Fruit Jam	Ground Nutmeg	Sponge Sandwich
Soothing Powders	Skimmed Milk Powder	Rum
Stewed Steak with Gravy	Fish Cakes	Dundee Cake
Vapour Rub	Sugarless Marmalade	Lemon Curd
French Coffee	Fresh Crab Meat	Devonshire Butters
Neuro Phosphates	Dressed Crab	French Dressing
Rock (2 samples)	Cocoa	Gin (3 samples)
Lard	Cheese Spread with Shrimp	Milk Scones
Raspberry Jam	Sterilised Cream	Fillets of Herring
		Milk (15 samples)

All the above samples were found to be genuine.



## Inspection of Food Premises

A summary of types of food premises and inspections carried out is as follows:-

<u>Number of Premises</u>		<u>Number of Inspections</u>
55	Restaurants/Cafes/Snack Bars	176
315	Hotels, Boarding Houses	46
3	Holiday Camp Kitchens	10
6	Staff Canteens	7
32	Baker/Confectioners, Bakehouses	74
89	General Grocers, Greengrocers	172
29	Butchers, Cooked Meats	90
4	Ice Cream Manufacturers	30
13	Fishmongers	41
7	Shellfish Dealers/Processors	29
5	Licensed Premises	36
2	Beer and Mineral Water Bottlers	7
9	Wines and Spirits Merchants	7
57	Confectioners	76
2	Wholesale Confectioners	4
21	Kiosks, Refreshment Huts	36
5	Mobile Shops	9
5	Fruit and Vegetable Wholesalers	12
2	Milk Depots	8
	Inspections of food delivery vehicles	29

## Other Food Premises

47 premises are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale.

Bakehouses	10	Fish Fryers	8	Small Goods Factory	1
Butchers	24	Grocers	4		

## SHELLFISH

### Crab meat

13 samples of crab meat were taken during the year. The results of the frozen crab processed at the local factory were very satisfactory.

### Other Shellfish

The results of the bacteriological examination of shellfish are given in the following table:-

<u>Nature of Sample</u>	<u>No. Taken</u>	<u>Passed</u>	<u>Failed</u>
Cockles	4	4	0
Mussels	3	3	0
Whelks	4	4	0

No organisms of the Salmonella-dysentery group were isolated from any of these samples.

Shellfish are judged according to the Fishmongers' Company Standards and are deemed to have passed if there are less than five faecal coli per ml., of flesh and if no organisms of the Salmonella-dysentery group are isolated on culture.

## S E C T I O N    D

### MISCELLANEOUS    ACTS

#### CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

There was no serious smoke nuisance in the area during the period under review, and minor infringements were remedied informally.

#### PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

There are four premises licensed under the above Act.

#### RAG FLOCK ACT, 1951

Four premises are registered under the Act. No premises are licensed for the manufacture or storage of Rag Flock.

#### CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT, 1961

This replaced the Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Act, 1952, in August, 1961. Inspections have been made for the purpose of carrying out the duties of this Act.

## SHOPS ACT, 1950

The Council is responsible for the administration of the whole of the provisions of the Shops Act.

Informal action was taken in respect of the following:-

Provide facilities for taking meals	..	1
Cleanse sanitary accommodation	..	3
Provide sufficient ventilation	..	2
Hours of Closing	..	10

There are 621 shop premises in the area, to which 215 visits were made for the purpose of the Act.

One Order made by the Devon County Council has been adopted by this Council thus continuing a policy that has been in operation since 1912. This Order, made under Section 40, suspends the weekly half-holiday during the four months June to September.

The Council by an Order made under Section 41 of the Act substituted the hour of 9.30 p.m. for the general closing hours. The Order is applicable to part of the Urban District and is operative for the four months June to September each year.

### Sunday Trading Order, 1962

This year a further Order made under Section 51 of the Shops Act, 1950, permitted certain Sunday trading within parts of the Urban District on eighteen specified Sundays.

## AGRICULTURE (SAFETY HEALTH AND WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT, 1956

16 Farms were inspected under this Act and all were found to have adequate toilet arrangements.

### DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER 1957

6 premises were inspected during the year, but one was found to be boiling swill. The requirements of the Order were complied with.

## PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS, 1928 AND 1936

Sixty-three licences to store 354,785 gallons of petroleum were issued

3 x 1,000, 3 x 2,000 and 1 x 5,000 gallon tanks were installed during the year.



Two existing five hundred gallon tanks were tested, having been in use for over twenty years.

Five tanks came into disuse and were filled with water.

### EXPLOSIVES ACTS, 1875 AND 1923

#### Classification of Stores:-

36 licences were issued for the storage of gunpowder and mixed explosives:

Explosives in magazine - Mode "A"	...	3
Shops for the sale of cartridges, Class 6 Division 3	...	4
Shops for the sale of fireworks, Class 7 Division 2	...	29

### S E C T I O N    E

#### FACTORIES ACT, 1961

#### URBAN DISTRICT OF PAIGNTON

The following is a summary of information required in respect of the year 1962. A total of 120 inspections was made in respect of 179 premises listed in the Factories Register.

#### Part 1 of the Act

#### 1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health

##### (i) Factories without Mechanical Power: (Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6)

Number on Register	...	...	16
Inspections	...	...	16
Written Notices	...	...	0
Occupiers prosecuted	...	...	0

##### (ii) Factories with Mechanical Power: (Section 7)

Number on Register	...	...	137
Inspections	...	...	69
Written Notices	...	...	0
Occupiers prosecuted	...	...	0

(iii) Other premises under the Act:  
(Section 7)

(Electric Stations, Institutions, Sites of Building Operations, Works of Engineering Construction, but excluding Outworkers' Premises).

Number on Register	...	...	26
Inspections	...	...	35
Written Notices	...	...	0
Occupiers prosecuted	...	...	0

2. Cases in which Defects were found

<u>Defect</u>	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>	<u>Defects referred to H.M. Inspector</u>	<u>by H.M. Inspector</u>
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)				
(a) Insufficient	0	0	0	0
(b) Unsuitable or Defective	7	7	0	0
(c) Not separate for sexes	0	0	0	0

Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted: Nil.

PART VIII OF THE ACT

Outwork

(Sections 133 and 134)

	Section 133			Section 134	
Nature of Work  (1)	No of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)
Wearing) Making apparel) etc.	2	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	2	0	0	0	0

(7) There were no prosecutions.

## S E C T I O N   F

### RIPARIAN HEALTH DISTRICT OF PAIGNTON, 1962

A Report on the above District, based on the instructions of the Ministry of Health contained in Circular 33/52 and 16/55 and in Form Port 20 was submitted to the Ministry in February, 1963. A summary of this report is given below:-

No coastwise or foreign shipping entered the harbour during the year, activity being chiefly connected with local fishermen and with yachtsmen and pleasure craft.

Facilities exist for supplying boats with drinking water. Local doctors and the Hospital Service would deal with any cases of sickness and special arrangements exist for treatment of infectious illness and smallpox.

#### Paignton Harbour and Main Drainage Scheme

Consequent upon engineering work concerned with the relaying and improvement of the main storm water drainage system in Paignton it was necessary to lay a 66" diameter storm water sewer and outfall across the bed of the harbour. To facilitate this a dam was built across the harbour mouth and the harbour was pumped dry. It was closed to large boats from mid-November, 1961, and to all boats from mid-January and was re-opened by the end of March, 1962.

A copy of the detailed Report is available for inspection at the Public Health Department, Oldway, Paignton.





